

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0891

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TAGS: OEXC CY

SUBJECT: FY-75 ALLOCATION: EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

REF: STATE 276852

1. POST AND COMMISSION GREATLY DISAPPOINTED WITH LEVEL OF TOTAL ALLOCATION OF \$150,000 FOR FY-75 (\$135,000 FOR BINATIONAL COMMISSION PROGRAMS AND \$15,000 FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS). DECREASE FROM FY-74 DEPARTMENT ALLOCATION THUS TOTALS \$38,671 DESPITE INCREASED COSTS AND INFLATION. DECREASE RESULTED FROM \$8,671 CUT FROM FY-74 TOTAL OF \$156,671 (ALLOCATION SHEET SHOWS \$168,671 BECAUSE OF MISTAKE IN ADDITION) PLUS \$30,000 STUDENT RENEWALS NOT FORMERLY CHARGED TO POST'S ALLOCATION. LOWER ALLOCATION WILL REDUCE NUMBER OF GRANTS ALREADY DIMINISHED BY INCREASED TRANSPORTATION AND LIVING COSTS.

2. IN VIEW PRESENT SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN CYPRUS, POST AND COMMISSION HAD EXPECTED INCREASE IN ALLOCATION AND PARTICULARLY THE ONE TIME INFUSION OF EXTRA STUDENT FUNDS AS REQUESTED BY AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD. WE BELIEVE DECREASE IN STUDENT GRANTS AT A TIME WHEN MANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS ARE RESPONDING FAVORABLY TO GOC SPECIAL APPEALS FOR AID TO CYPRIOT STUDENTS JEAPORDIZES THE PRESTIGE OF COMMISSION, COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS, AND LESSENS OVERALL CONTRIBUTION TO USG POLICY OBJECTIVES.

3. ALTHOUGH COMMISSION REALIZES BUDGET RESTRICTIONS, IT BELIEVES FY-75 ALLOCATION BELOW MINIMUM FOR MEANINGFUL PROGRAM. DOLLAR SUPPORT COSTS BASED ON REFTEL FIGURES WOULD HAVE TO BE AS UNCLASSIFIED

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FOLLOWS: ONE US PROFESSOR \$2,500; THREE FOREIGN TEACHERS \$16,950;

FOUR FOREIGN STUDENTS \$18,940; ONE CIP FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM \$4,000;
STUDENT RENEWALS \$30,000. TOTAL \$72,390 DOLLAR COSTS PLUS
FOREIGN CURRENCY OF \$62,610 EQUAL TOTAL BINATIONAL PROGRAM
OF \$135,000.

4. ANY ADDITIONAL GOC CONTRIBUTION WILL BE USED FOR ADDITIONAL
STUDENT GRANTS.

5. POST AND COMMISSION URGE INCREASE IN FY75 ALLOCATION INCLU-
DING DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD'S APPEAL FOR
SPECIAL STUDENT FUNDS.

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